(c) and (d). The overall supply of coal to these thermal power stations has been adequate, excpet to Satpura Thermal Power Station. The Ministry of Coal have issue instructions to Western Coalfields Ltd. to step up supply to Satpura Thermal Power Stations. Some supplies were also arranged from South Eastern Coalfied Ltd. to make up for the shortfall in Satpura Thermal Power Station.

Diesel Shed in Samastipur

5559. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval for the construction of diesel shed in Samastipur of North Eastern Railway was accorded in 1990-91;

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting this unit; and

(c) when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On review, expansion of Gonda diesel shed has been found more economical and urgently required on operational considerations. The proposal for the diesel shed at Samastipur has been held in abeyance for the present.

[*English*]

Crash of Boeing 737 near Imphal

5560. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the causes of the air accidents in the past and the present accident of Boeing 737 crashed near Imphal on August 16, 1991 are also on the line of earlier crashes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to tone up the working and functioning of the airlines to ensure safety of the travelling passengers and to check such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The cause of the Imphal air crash will be established only after the Court of Inquiry has investigated it.

(b) Foremost priority is attached to the safety of operations of the airlines and no effort is spared in the enforcement of safety standards.

Air Accidents

5561. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of the air accidents take place at the time of landing or taking off aircraft;

(b) if so, the number of accidents took place while landing and taking off in the last three years;

(c) the reasons for such accidents; and

(d) the steps taken to check such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). During the last three years, there were 48 accidents to civilian aircraft, of which 23 took place during landing or take-off phases.

(c) Of the 23 accidents, investigation has been completed in 19, It is found that 17 of these accidents took place due to pilot